TWIN FALLS LAND USE DECISIONS SUMMARY AND RANGELAND PROGRAM SUMMARY

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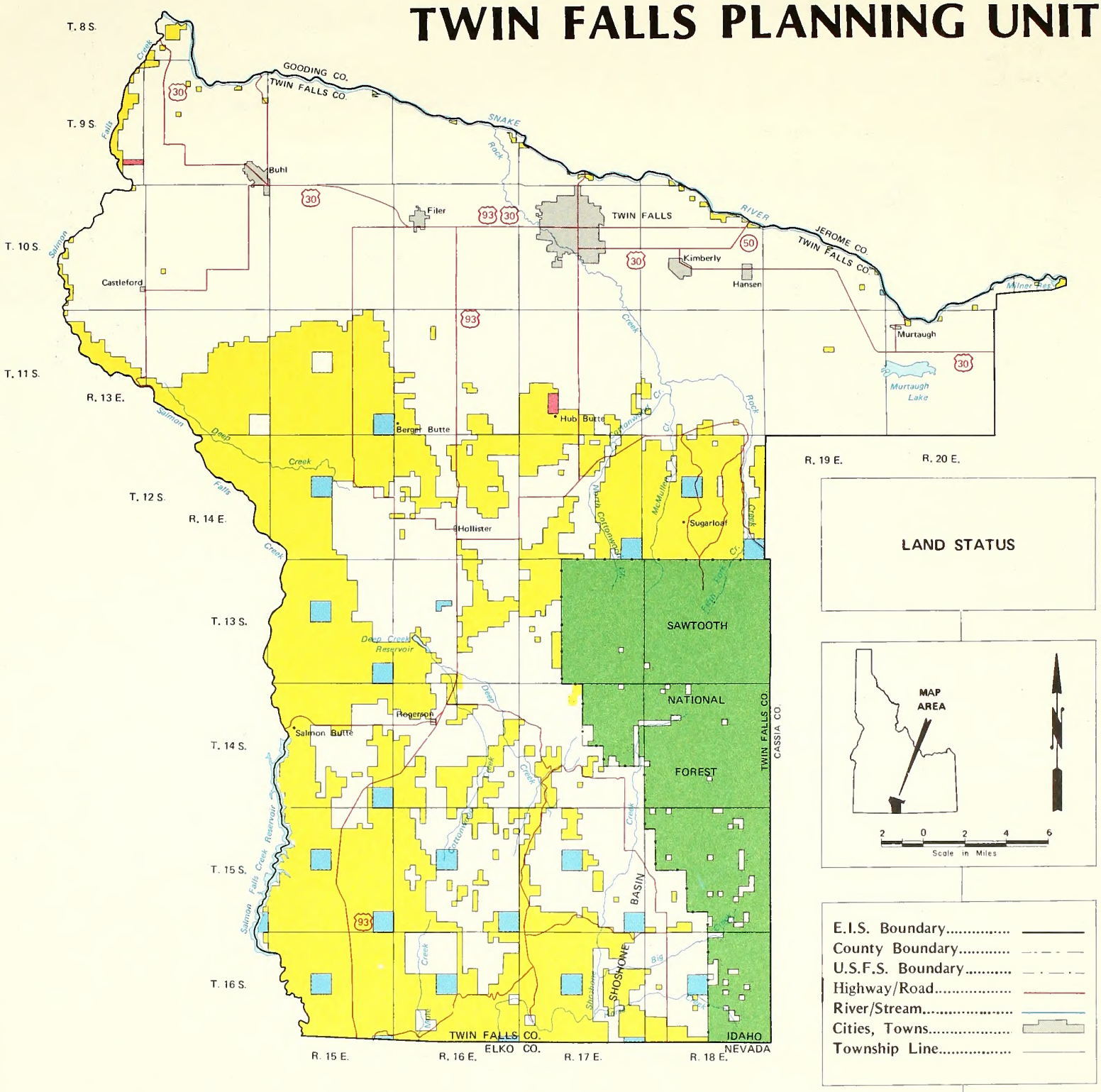
TWIN FALLS PLANNING UNIT



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As the Nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has basic responsibilities for water, fish, land, wildlife, mineral, park and recreational resources. Indian and Territorial Affairs are also concerns of America's "Department of Natural Resources."

The Department works to assure the wisest choice in managing all our resources so each will make its full contribution to a better United States — now and in the future.

The Bureau of Land Management, an agency in the Department of the Interior, administers programs for conservation and development of the public lands and resources. In Idaho, there are six Bureau of Land Management districts with offices in Burley, Boise, Idaho Falls, Salmon, Shoshone and Coeur d'Alene.

THE OUTLOOK: It is inconceivable to me that an ethical relation to land can exist without love, respect, and admiration for land, and a high regard for its value. By value, I of course mean something far broader than mere economic value, I mean value in the philosophical sense.

Aldo Leopold

Cover Photo: The pristine environment found in Salmon Falls Canyon. This area is included in the Salmon Falls Creek Natural Area.

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A Word From the District Manager

This brochure summarizes land use decisions on the public lands for the Twin Falls Management Framework Plan (MFP) and Twin Falls Livestock Grazing Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in the Burley District.

The current effort in land use planning represents an update of the planning efforts that began in 1967. Past planning work was considered and incorporated along with new data which now comprises the current land use planning decisions.

The large number and complexity of land use decisions made it impossible to present all of them here. This document highlights the significant decisions in each resource program. It also serves as the Rangeland Program Summary (RPS) which summarizes the grazing EIS and sets forth those decisions that affect livestock grazing. Interested parties have until December 31, 1982, to express their views on decisions set forth in the RPS. Submit comments to: Scott Anderson, Magic Resource Area Manager, Bureau of Land Management, Route 3, Box 1, Burley, Idaho 83318.

You are invited to review the Twin Falls plan, EIS, and all related documents at the Burley District Office. The Magic Resource Area staff is available to discuss the decisions and help you review the documents. Revisions in the Twin Falls plan may be required from time to time to meet people's needs and to cope with changes in local and national conditions. Major revisions will be done with full public participation. The Range Program Summary will be updated yearly to keep the public aware of progress in the range program and of any management decisions.

We wish to thank everyone for their time and effort in assisting us in the development of the Twin Falls MFP. We hope that you will continue to provide us with your views and input so that our job as land managers can be accomplished with consideration of your interests.

Nick James Cozakos
District Manager
Burley District

October, 1982

General Description

The Twin Falls Planning Unit encompasses 806,887 acres of land. Of this total, 231,298 acres are public land administered by the Bureau of Land Management.

The northern portion of the planning unit is characterized by a broad, gently undulating basalt plateau used primarily for crop agriculture and containing the major population centers of the unit. Deep canyons occur along both the Snake River and Salmon Falls Creek as well as along some smaller tributaries. Steeper and more rolling terrain is characteristic of the southern portion of the unit. Elevation varies from 2,900 feet to 7,500 feet.

The basic land ownership pattern is private land on the northern plateau area and in the valley areas of the southern portion of the unit, BLM land in the foothill and plateau areas, and Forest Service land in the mountain areas.

Total population within the EIS area is approximately 53,000. Major population centers include Twin Falls (approximately 26,200), Buhl (3,600), Filer (1,600), Kimberly (2,300), Hansen (1,100), and Murtaugh (1,100). Outside these population centers, the demographic character of the planning unit is predominantly rural/agricultural with major land uses including dry and irrigated farming, ranching, open space, and wildlife habitat.

Native vegetation consists primarily of sagebrush/grass associations with scattered areas of juniper/grass or greasewood/grass associations. Localized riparian and meadow communities are found throughout the area, with various shrub species, aspen, and cottonwood occurring locally.

A continental climate prevails with temperatures ranging from an average maximum of 90° F in July to an average minimum of 18° F in January. Annual precipitation for the area is 8 to 14 inches, 50 percent or more occurring as snow at the higher elevations.

TABLE 1

Land Ownership in the Twin Falls Planning Unit

Land Ownership	Acres
Public Lands	231,298
Private	469,938
State of Idaho	12,939
Forest Service	92,712
TOTAL	806,887

Major Issues and Problems

Major issues and problems result from present and potential land use conflicts, the unavoidable environmental impacts of resource development, and social and economic impacts on local communities and lifestyles.

Issues and problems were identified through the BLM's planning and EIS process, both of which involved public participation. The management response to these issues and problems for each resource is identified in the following sections.

Significant Management Decisions

The productive capability of the land itself coupled with public concerns for resource use and protection are key factors in BLM decision-making. Accordingly, geology, climate, soils, topography, wildlife, vegetation and public concerns were major considerations in the Twin Falls land use decisions.

The following decisions are not all-inclusive. If you wish to examine the complete set of decisions, we invite you to review them at the Burley BLM District Office.

Fire Program Summary

Fire occurrence within the planning unit is considered to be moderate. From 1960 through 1980, the district took suppression action on 207 fires that burned 87,584 acres within the planning unit. Lightning accounted for 29 percent of these fires with the remaining 71 percent classified as man-caused. The majority of man-caused fires have occurred adjacent to main roads such as Highway 93 and Foothill Road.

The carefully planned use of fire has become a more popular resource management tool because of its low cost and efficiency in manipulating vegetation. Modified suppression and prescription burning can have great pay-offs in terms of meeting land management objectives for a variety of resource values.

Use of fire as a resource management tool is becoming more popular because of its low cost and efficiency in manipulating vegetation.

FIRE DECISIONS

USE FIRE AS A RESOURCE MANAGEMENT TOOL ON PORTIONS OF 23,000 ACRES OF THE PLANNING UNIT.

Fire, when managed properly, can help maintain vegetation in a condition that is more ecologically stable, as well as more useful to man. Prescribed burns will be used as a cost-effective means of altering vegetation, halting the reinvasion of brush into grassland seedings and enhancing the edge effect so important to a variety of wildlife.

DESIGNATE SALMON FALLS CANYON BELOW SALMON DAM AS A LIMITED FIRE SUPPRESSION AREA.

Modified suppression of natural-caused fires will be allowed. These fires will burn unchecked except where life or property is threatened or fire threatens to escape confines of the modified suppression boundaries. Intent is to manage the canyon as a natural area. As such, wildland fire is treated as a component of the overall ecosystem.

Forest Program Summary

Forested lands in the planning unit consist of approximately 50 acres of Rocky Mountain juniper primarily located along Mule Creek and Rock Creek. These stands provide no opportunity for the production of forest products such as posts, poles and firewood on a sustained yield basis.

FOREST PRODUCT DECISION

DESIGNATE SCATTERED JUNIPER STANDS AS PROTECTIVE FOREST LAND.

The highest value of these forested areas is the wildlife and watershed protection they provide. There is no other forest cover within several miles of each of these forested sites.

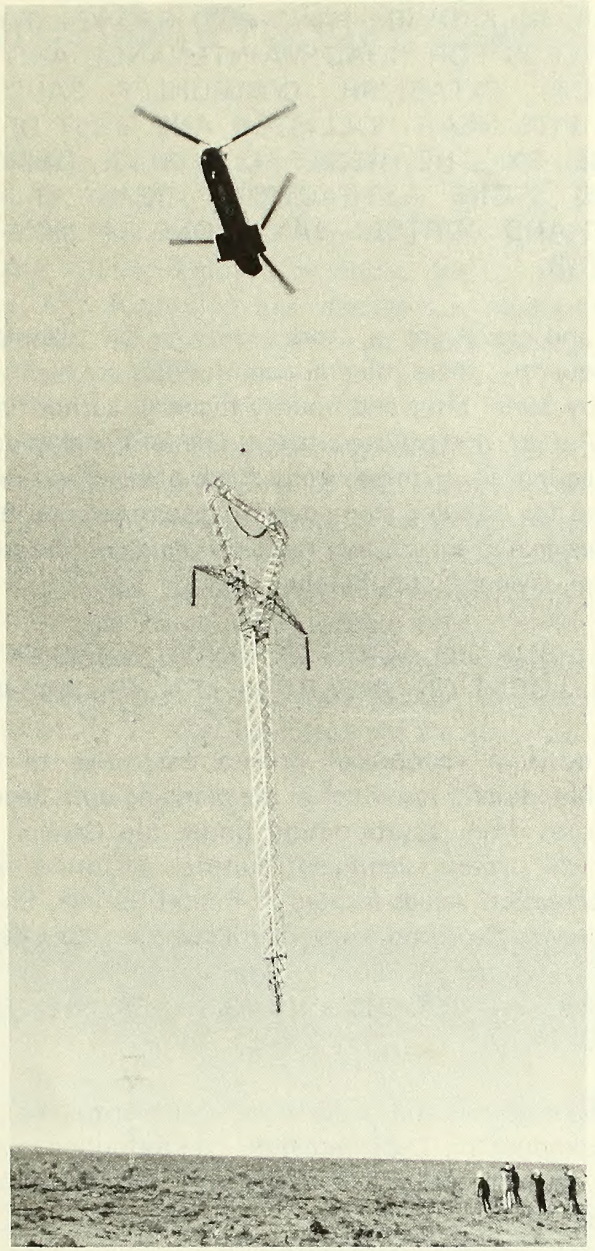
Lands Program Summary

The BLM has surface management responsilities on 231,298 acres within the Twin Falls Planning Unit. The public lands will be retained in federal ownership and managed in accordance to principles of multiple use and sustained yield unless specifically identified for Recreation and Public Purposes, agricultural development, or other methods of disposal identified in the land use plan. The public lands are available for a variety of uses, including installation of public utilities, roads, pipelines, and other actions requiring rights-of-way subject to preparation of appropriate environmental assessment and land reports.

LANDS DECISIONS

PROVIDE PUBLIC LANDS FOR RECREATION AND PUBLIC PURPOSES.

The Recreation and Public Purposes Act provides for meeting the needs of certain state and local governmental agencies and other qualified organizations for public lands required for recreational and public uses. Specific sites currently or proposed for such classification include sanitary landfills at Filer, Murtaugh, Twin Falls and Rogerson.



The 390-mile Oreana-to-Hunt electrical transmission line constructed by Sierra Pacific Power Company and Idaho Power Company crosses public land in the Twin Falls Planning Unit.

PROCESS ALL EXCHANGE PROPOSALS IN LIGHT OF PUBLIC INTEREST AND RESOURCE VALUES AND OBJECTIVES WHICH MAY BE LOST OR GAINED BY THE EXCHANGE.

A number of exchange proposals are currently on file with the Burley District. Proceed with exchanges where patented lands have greater resource values for public land management than public lands being desired by the exchange applicant.

ROUTE MAJOR UTILITIES ACROSS PUBLIC LANDS WITHIN DESIGNATED CORRIDORS WHEREVER FEASIBLE.

Two major powerlines and several major pipelines have been authorized and constructed across public land, forming the existing utility system. Corridors can be established from the system with a minimum of negative environmental impact. Confining transmission lines and pipelines to corridors allows for a better utilization of land. The impacts to agricultural lands, aesthetics, and other resource values are minimized.

TERMINATE ALL UNAUTHORIZED AGRICULTURAL TRESPASSES BY DETERMINING THE BOUNDARY AND OCCUPANT OF EACH TRESPASS AND SETTLING THE DAMAGES DUE THE GOVERNMENT BASED ON FAIR MARKET VALUE.

The use of public lands without proper authorization will subject the person(s) occupying or using the land to prosecution and liability for trespass. Settlement of the trespass will return fair market rental to the public for the past use of the land. Following settlement of the trespasses, a decision will be made concerning the future use of the land. Each site will be evaluated to determine the existence or absence of resource values (threatened and endangered plants or animals and associated habitat, cultural values, riparian/wet-

land values, etc.). A course of action, depending on these values, can then be determined from among the following: rehabilitation of site, establishments of a cooperative wildlife farming agreement or agricultural lease, or public sale.

Minerals Program Summary

Mineral activity in the planning area is confined mainly to salable minerals such as sand, gravel, and building or decorative stone. There are 45 sand and gravel pits scattered throughout the planning area. A common use area for building and decorative stone has been established near Salmon Falls Reservoir.

Nearly all of the public land is under oil and gas lease application. No exploration or production has occurred on these leases. The areas around Magic Hot Springs, Artesian City, Nat-Soo-Pah, Miracle Hot Springs, and Banbury Hot Springs have considerable potential for geothermal production.

Locatable mineral activity, in particular placer gold mining, is concentrated along the Snake River in what is known as the Snake River Placer Mining District.

MINERALS DECISIONS

ALLOW LEASING, EXPLORATION, AND DEVELOPMENT OF OIL AND GAS AND GEOTHERMAL RESOURCES THROUGHOUT THE PLANNING UNIT.

The entire planning unit has some potential for oil and gas production while several areas are potentially valuable for geothermal production. With appropriate surface protection measures, these energy resources can be developed while other resource values such as wildlife and watershed are protected.

CONTINUE TO PROVIDE SAND AND GRAVEL TO MEET LOCAL NEEDS FOR ROAD MAINTENANCE AND CONSTRUCTION. ESTABLISH COMMUNITY SAND AND GRAVEL PITS NEAR HOLLISTER AND WEST OF BUHL FOR USE BY THE GENERAL PUBLIC. DESIGNATE BUILDING STONE EXTRACTION AREAS AT GREYS LANDING AND NORTONS BAY ALONG SALMON FALLS RESERVOIR.

Sand and gravel are in short supply in the planning unit. Consequently, these mineral commodities are highly sought after by state, city, and county highway authorities, commercial users, and private citizens. The MFP makes provision for meeting all of these needs. Both present and projected demand for building stone can be accommodated from the two designated sites. Other resource values will be protected by lease or permit stipulations.

KEEP ALL BUT 355 ACRES OF PUBLIC LAND OPEN TO MINERAL LOCATION UNDER THE MINING LAW OF 1872.

This decision encourages private enterprise to develop locatable mineral resources in the planning unit. Segregating 355 acres from appropriation under the General Mining Laws will protect significant cultural, historical, geologic and recreation values located at Rabbit Springs, Shoshone, Springtown, Cauldron Linn, Dry Town, and Dry Cataracts.

ESTABLISH A ROCKHOUNDING AREA AT RABBIT SPRINGS.

Abundant geodes and good access make this a popular area for rockhounding. Designating the site for public recreational use will help control large scale excavation by commercial dealers.

Recreation Program Summary

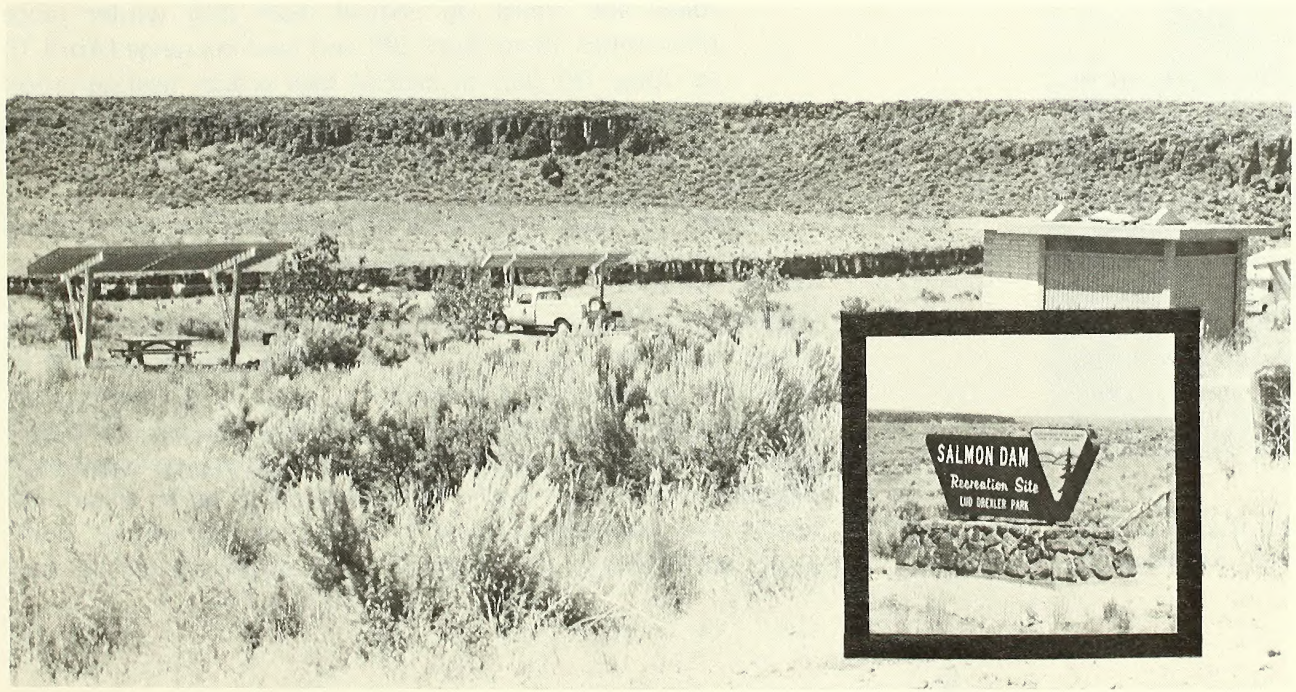
Public lands in the area are important for a variety of recreational activities including hunting, fishing, off-road vehicle use, camping, and horseback riding. In 1979, over 90,000 recreation visitor days of use occurred on public lands in the Twin Falls Planning Unit. According to projections, an additional 50,000 visitor days of recreational use are expected to occur on public lands by the year 2000.

Salmon Falls Reservoir provides the major recreation attraction in the planning unit, receiving 28,000 visitor days of angler use in 1980 plus considerable boating, camping, picnicking, and other use. The only developed overnight camping facility on public land is the Salmon Dam Recreation Site, which also contains the only developed launching facility on the reservoir. Four primitive camp/picnic sites also occur in the planning unit. A portion of the Milner Bicentennial Site, an interpretive and picnic site on the Oregon Trail, is in the planning unit.

RECREATION DECISIONS

PROVIDE SPECIAL RECREATION MANAGEMENT AT SITES THROUGHOUT THE TWIN FALLS PLANNING UNIT: SALMON FALLS CREEK NATURAL AREA, SALMON FALLS RESERVOIR RECREATION LANDS, DRY CATARACTS NATIONAL NATURAL LANDMARK, AND HISTORIC SITES (OREGON TRAIL, SALMON AND MILNER DAMS, CAULDRON LINN, AND SITES OF SPRINGTOWN, DRY TOWN, AND SHOSHONE).

The area of Salmon Falls Creek Canyon between Salmon Dam and Balanced Rock contains a unique ecological system which is virtually undisturbed by the influence of man. It has been designated a natural area and requires special management to retain the natural, undisturbed character of the area.



Salmon Dam Recreation Site is the major developed recreation facility on public lands in the Twin Falls Planning Unit. The site provides opportunities for camping, picnicking, fishing, boating, and other recreational activities.

The Dry Cataracts area has recently been designated a National Natural Landmark. Unique erosional features resulting from the overflow of ancient Lake Bonneville dominate the area. Protection of these features is necessary to maintain the integrity of the natural landmark designation.

Recreation use at and in the area of Salmon Falls Reservoir accounts for a significant portion of the recreational use in the planning unit. To ensure that this use continues and is enhanced in the future, special management needs to be implemented.

A variety of historic sites, including a portion of the Oregon Trail "National Historic" Trail, are found in the planning unit. These sites provide important historical background relative to the development of the local region and the West and warrant special management through preservation and interpretation.

ACQUIRE ACCESS TO AND PROVIDE RECREATION DEVELOPMENTS ON PUBLIC LANDS TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE RECREATING PUBLIC.

Additional facilities and improved access will be needed to provide for the anticipated growth in recreational use of the public lands in the Twin Falls Planning Unit. Facilities would include new and upgraded picnic/campgrounds, boat launches, and trails.

Legal access is one of the most limiting factors for recreational use of public lands in the planning unit. As the number of people recreating on public lands increases, ensuring access to the public lands through easement acquisition will become more important.

DESIGNATE ALL PUBLIC LANDS IN THE PLANNING UNIT AS OPEN, LIMITED OR CLOSED TO OFF-ROAD VEHICLE USE.

Use of public lands by various types of off-road vehicles is growing at a rapid pace in the Twin Falls area. ORV use is a legitimate use of public land. But public concern over damage to other resources by ORV use indicates that better management over the activity may be desirable.

To facilitate ORV use while limiting impacts to other resources, the following restrictions have been adopted:

1. Close Salmon Falls Creek Canyon from Salmon Dam to Balanced Rock to all ORV use (except for Lilly Grade, Balanced Rock, and Three Creek Roads).

2. Implement a spring closure in the foothills to eliminate soil erosion problems. Limit use to existing roads and trails the remainder of the year.

3. Implement seasonal restrictions (use limited to existing roads and trails) on critical mule deer winter range (November 15 to April 30) and fawning range (April 15 to June 15) and in critical sage grouse nesting/brood rearing areas (March 15 to June 15). Close critical sage grouse winter range to snowmobile use.

Except for these limitations, all public lands in the planning unit have been designated open to off-road vehicle use.

MANAGE PUBLIC LANDS IN THE PLANNING UNIT TO MAINTAIN OR ENHANCE EXISTING SCENIC QUALITY. REHABILITATE AREAS WHICH HAVE A SIGNIFICANT DEPRECIATIVE EFFECT ON THE SCENIC QUALITY (UNAUTHORIZED GARBAGE DUMPS, VACATED GRAVEL PITS).

The Twin Falls of the Snake River, circa 1907. Photo taken by C.E. Bisbee. Courtesy of the Twin Falls County Historical Museum.

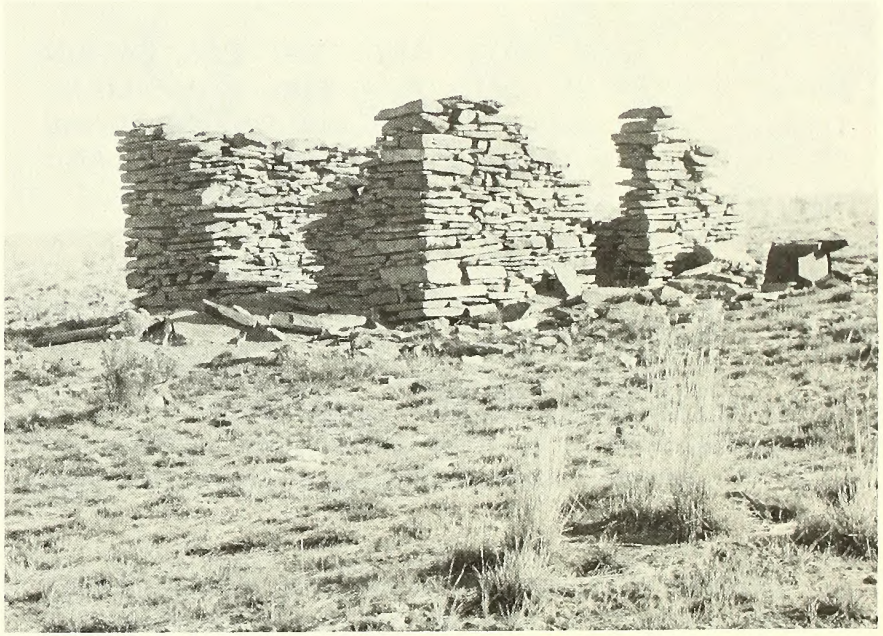
Cultural Program Summary

The planning unit contains a limited variety of archaeological and historical features that are valuable for scientific, educational, and recreational purposes.

Prehistoric sites in the area consist mainly of lithic scatters, though some rock shelters and camp sites are present. The most significant values in the area are the historical features. Some of these features are primarily of local significance, and others such as the Cauldron Linn, Oregon Trail, and Stricker Store have received state and national historic landmark status. Most of the historical sites are associated with the Oregon Trail, early settlement in the area (often associated with mining), or the freight and stage roads which crossed the area in the mid to late 1800s.

CULTURAL RESOURCES DECISIONS

PROTECT HISTORIC AND PREHISTORIC CULTURAL RESOURCE SITES BY: CLEANING AND STABILIZING HISTORIC STRUCTURES, ELIMINATING UNAUTHORIZED EXCAVATIONS, FENCING SITES, AND ACQUIRING SIGNIFICANT CULTURAL RESOURCE PROPERTIES WHEN AVAILABLE.



Sites of historic and prehistoric value, such as this stone house, are found throughout the Twin Falls Planning Unit.

Historic structures, such as those found at Dry Town and Spring Town, and prehistoric sites are nonrenewable resources which are vulnerable to adverse impacts from weathering, vandalism, livestock trampling, ORV use, and other man-caused and natural actions. In order to preserve the socio-cultural values associated with these sites, protection through site stabilization, fencing, or other means of preventing deterioration is necessary.

In addition, privately owned cultural resources should be acquired through purchase, exchange, or donation if made available to the BLM. Currently recorded cultural resources in the area exhibit only a limited diversity. Bureau objectives include the protection and preservation of a representative sample of the full array of cultural resources.

ESTABLISH STUDY PLOTS AND TEST EXCAVATION SITES TO DETERMINE EFFECTS OF FIRE REHABILITATION AND LIVESTOCK TRAMPLING ON CULTURAL RESOURCES AND TO DETERMINE SITE VALUES AND PROVIDE BETTER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT.

Only a limited amount of study has been undertaken to determine the effects of various fire rehabilitation methods on the surface stability of cultural resource sites. The same is true for the impact of livestock grazing on cultural sites. By undertaking these studies, a better understanding of impacts on cultural resources will be gained, leading to improved resource management and potential savings in project costs.

Excavation of cultural sites will provide an expanded knowledge of the socio-cultural values of the area and will provide knowledge relative to the overall significance of the cultural values in Twin Falls relative to the region. The information will allow for better evaluations of cultural sites and more effective management of cultural resources.

Watershed Program Summary

The planning unit is comprised of two distinct watersheds. Shoshone Creek, Upper Deep Creek, and Whiskey Creek are major tributaries of Salmon Falls Creek. Streams in the remainder of the area flow directly into the Snake River. With the exception of Salmon Falls Creek, all streams originate in the South Hills or the hills of the Shoshone Basin.

Because of the broad range in elevations, rainfall, and temperatures, the planning unit has many diverse and complex soil patterns. Soil erosion in the area falls within the slight to moderate category. No severe or critical erosion problems exist over any broad area.

WATERSHED DECISIONS

IMPLEMENT LIVESTOCK GRAZING MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS TO PROTECT UPLAND WATERSHEDS AND PERENNIAL STREAMS.

This decision will result in better livestock distribution, enabling maintenance of an adequate vegetative cover which is essential in stabilizing the soil resource. Present soil erosion rates should decrease on 71 percent of the acreage as a result of this decision. Periods of rest from grazing should enable improved stream conditions resulting in less siltation and better water quality.

PROTECT AREAS WITH SEVERE EROSION SUSCEPTIBILITY OR HIGH EROSION RATES BY LIMITING GRAZING USE, IMPLEMENTING GRAZING SYSTEMS, AND RESTRICTING OFF-ROAD VEHICLE (ORV) USE.

This will insure healthy, deep-rooted range plants that will stabilize the soil and provide a cover of litter that aids seedling establishment and minimizes surface runoff. ORV use will be regulated under an ORV designation plan for the planning unit.

PROTECT AND IMPROVE THOSE SMALL POCKETS OF THREATENED AND SENSITIVE PLANT HABITAT WITHIN THE PLANNING UNIT.

This action is consistent with the Endangered Species Act and Bureau policy that sensitive species will be conserved and managed to minimize the need for state and federal listing.

DETERMINE WATER NEEDS FOR MULTIPLE USE MANAGEMENT ON THE PUBLIC LAND AND WORK WITH THE STATE TO ESTABLISH WATER RIGHTS ON ALL WATERS WITH DEVELOPMENTS.

Protection of public waters is paramount to the effective multiple use management of resources on the public lands.

Wildlife Program Summary

The Twin Falls Planning Unit has areas of year-round populations of antelope and mule deer. The heaviest concentrations of deer occur during the winter.

Upland game bird populations in the planning unit remain at fairly stable levels. Of the game birds, ring-necked pheasant, sage grouse, and chukar partridge are the most important and popular huntable species.

The bald eagle, an endangered species, winters throughout the planning unit. The bobcat, ferruginous hawk, long-billed curlew, burrowing owl, and river otter are sensitive species inhabiting the area.

Aquatic habitat is important to waterfowl, shorebirds, furbearers, and fish. Approximately 60 miles of streams provide habitat for trout, bass, perch, and whitefish.

Mule deer are found on public lands year-round. Heaviest concentrations occur during the winter months. Herd Unit 54, which includes most of the Planning Unit, is one of the most productive deer harvest units in the state.

WILDLIFE DECISIONS

PROVIDE HIGH QUALITY MULE DEER AND ANTELOPE HABITAT BY: ALLOCATING FORAGE TO SUPPORT PRESENT NUMBERS OF ANTELOPE AND MULE DEER AND PROVIDE SUFFICIENT FORAGE TO ACCOMMODATE FUTURE POPULATIONS; DEVELOPING GRAZING SYSTEMS TO INSURE ADEQUATE PRODUCTION OF BIG GAME FORAGE; AND PROVIDING DEPENDABLE WATER SOURCES.

The allocations will enable BLM to provide forage for deer and antelope to meet present needs as well as 1990 population estimates that were jointly determined by Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) and BLM. These decisions will provide food, cover and water, the essential components of quality habitat.

ENHANCE SAGE GROUSE HABITAT BY: MAINTAINING ADEQUATE LIVE SAGEBRUSH COVER WITHIN NESTING, BROOD REARING, AND WINTER HABITAT; MANAGING VEGETATION CONTROL WITHIN TWO MILES OF STRUTTING GROUNDS; PROVIDING AT LEAST A 100–YARD STRIP OF LIVE BRUSH ALONG MEADOWS AND DRAINAGES; RESTRICTING VEHICLE USE IN NESTING/BROOD REARING AREAS DURING THE PERIOD MARCH 15 TO JUNE 15 OF EACH YEAR, ENHANCING EXISTING WATER SOURCES AND DEVELOPING ADDITIONAL WATER.

Sagebrush provides almost the entire food supply for sage grouse during winter and is critical for nesting cover. Meadows, streams, and drainages provide succulent forbs and insects important in the diet of young sage grouse. The vehicle limitations would provide harassment reduction during the breeding/brood rearing period. The decisions provide for maintenance and improvement of all habitat components crucial to sage grouse survival.

ENHANCE STREAMBANK COVER, WATER QUALITY, AND FISHERIES HABITAT BY IMPLEMENTING LIVESTOCK GRAZING MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS AND RETAINING PUBLIC LAND ADJACENT TO ALL WATER BODIES AND WETLAND AREAS.

Streams, riparian areas, and wetlands are of great ecological significance. The majority of wildlife species in the planning unit are dependent upon these areas during some part or all of their life cycles. Streambank habitat conditions and water quality directly affect fish numbers and distribution. Grazing systems will provide a period of rest or deferment from livestock use that will improve aquatic habitat conditions.

MAINTAIN AND ENHANCE HABITAT TO SUPPORT THE VARIETY OF RAPTORS (HAWKS, EAGLES, OWLS) FOUND IN THE PLANNING UNIT.

Most raptors depend upon ground dwelling mammals for a substantial portion of their diet. Maintaining a variety of vegetation types throughout the planning unit will insure a diverse prey base that will be beneficial to all birds of prey.

Rangeland Program Summary

This section summarizes the rangeland management decisions for the Twin Falls Planning Unit. These decisions are based on multiple use planning and the grazing environmental impact statement. This summary conforms with Title 43, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 4160.1–1(a), Grazing Administration and Trespass on Public Lands. This summary also meets the record of decision requirement of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

Public Involvement

Formal and informal public contacts were made during the planning process. Public meetings were held in Twin Falls on March 31 and May 13, 1981, and in Buhl on April 1, 1981. Meetings were held with all involved livestock operators during January, 1980, to discuss each individual allotment. The comments received during these contacts were considered in the development of the multiple use plan, including the rangeland management program. A draft grazing environmental impact statement (EIS) was prepared and released for public review and comment in January, 1982. Public comments were received on the draft EIS, both written and oral, resulting in some changes in the final EIS which was released in June, 1982. Additional public contacts will be made as individual decisions are implemented.

Background

A total of 223,302 acres of public land are included in 76 grazing allotments. The remaining 7,996 acres of public land is unallotted. Sixty-two livestock operators are licensed to use these allotments. Cattle account for 97 percent of the livestock use, while sheep make up the remaining 3 percent. Active grazing preference (authorized use) for the planning unit is 45,392 Animal Unit Months (AUMs) with a six-year average use of 54,472 AUMs.

Ecological condition on the 199,468 acres of native range is 18 percent good, 52 percent fair, and 30 percent poor. The remaining 103,834 acres of allotted public land have been seeded. Seeding condition on this acreage is 44 percent excellent, 29 percent good, 25 percent fair, and 2 percent poor. Trend is 24 percent upward, 53 percent static, and 23 percent downward.

All of the range is suitable for grazing with the exception of 1,886 acres. These areas, primarily steep canyon walls, are scattered and include portions of 15 allotments.

Proposed Action

RANGELAND DECISIONS

IMPLEMENT THE MAJOR ELEMENTS DESCRIBED IN ALTERNATIVE A (PROPOSED ACTION) OF THE EIS.

The impacts of all elements in the decision were analyzed and documented in the draft and final EISs. The decision to proceed with the Proposed Action was based on public comment and because this alternative provides for a balanced use of public lands with the least possible disturbance to the environment, the local economy, and the community. This alternative is the environmentally preferred alternative. All practical means to avoid adverse impacts have been adopted. The following section describes the elements in the Proposed Action that will be implemented.

ALLOCATE 55,076 AUMs FOR USE BY LIVESTOCK AND 2,661 AUMS FOR WILDLIFE.

The initial vegetation allocation by allotment is shown in Table 2. Vegetation will be allocated to livestock, mule deer, and antelope. Unallocated vegetation (132,536 AUMs) is available for watershed protection, aesthetics, and other nonconsumptive uses. As planned project and maintenance work is completed, additional forage will be available for wildlife and livestock use. The wildlife allocation will increase to 4,405 AUMs, sufficient forage to meet 1990 population projections for mule deer and antelope developed jointly by the Idaho Department of Fish and Game and the BLM. Allocations for livestock will increase according to the

rate of success, measured by forage increases, of planned project and maintenance work, with a long-term target allocation of 71,210 AUMs.

IMPLEMENT, OR CONTINUE, GRAZING SYSTEMS TO IMPROVE RANGE CONDITION AND WATERSHED CONDITION.

Grazing systems are implemented to manage livestock use to improve the quality and quantity of desired vegetation, to alleviate a particular problem, or to enhance multiple use values. Table 3 shows planned grazing systems, number of treatments, and periods of use. Rest-rotation grazing systems will be implemented or continued on 60,138 acres, deferred rotation systems on 128,025 acres, seasonal use on 27,439 acres, and custodial management on 7,740 acres.

THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS AND SEEDING MAINTENANCE ARE NEEDED TO IMPLEMENT THE GRAZING MANAGEMENT PROGRAM: 25.75 MILES OF PIPELINE, 30 TROUGHS, 13.75 MILES OF FENCE, 2 SPRING DEVELOP–

Cattle account for 97 percent of the livestock use in the Twin Falls Planning Unit. Sixty-two livestock operators are licensed in Twin Falls allotments.

MENTS, 6 RESERVOIRS, 1 PUMP STATION, 15 CATTLE-GUARDS, AND 13,544 ACRES OF LAND TREATMENTS.

The planned range improvements (structural developments and land treatments) and seeding maintenance are needed to implement existing and new grazing management systems and to achieve better distribution of livestock, increase livestock forage production, improve watershed condition, and improve the condition of areas for wildlife. Table 3 lists all the project and maintenance work by allotment.

One change has been made in the project work from what appeared in the EIS. A 1,208-acre seeding maintenance project on Hub Butte has been changed from spraying to burning. Additional changes may be made because of the specific site conditions existing at the time a project is undertaken. All project work included in the Proposed Action and any changes or additions to the above projects will be analyzed through the environmental assessment process.

Land treatments on public rangeland provide forage for livestock and improve habitat for wildlife. Chaining is just one method for accomplishing land treatment.

Impact Summary. Long-term vegetative production is expected to increase by 19 percent with significant improvement in both range condition and trend.

Seven percent of the riparian vegetation will be protected from livestock grazing. Soil erosion will decrease on 71 percent of the allotted acreage with only 2 percent having an increase. Sufficient watershed cover (60 percent or more vegetation and litter) will increase from 64 percent to 76 percent of the acreage. Minimal localized improvement in water quality will result.

Big game forage requirements will be met, but grazing use will still result in habitat competition on much of the critical mule deer and antelope range. All species will benefit from the additional water developments with most species also benefiting from improved cover and increased forage. Nest desertion and trampling impacts will continue or increase because of spring livestock grazing.

A 10 percent increase in upland game hunting is projected by 1995 (above projected use under present management), with no change expected in either angler days or big game hunter days. Ranch income changes over the long term will amount to +$141,000.

Implementation

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION

The grazing program applicable to each allotment is documented in this summary. All interested parties have until December 31, 1982, to express their views on these decisions. Comments should be submitted in writing to: Scott Anderson, Magic Resource Area Manager, Bureau of Land Management, Route 3, Box 1, Burley, Idaho 83318.

Following this review period, written agreements will be pursued with grazing associations and/or individual permittees. All proposed decisions shall be submitted to the associations or permittees not later than December, 1983 (17 months following submission of the FEIS). Copies of the proposed decision(s) shall also be sent to those who have indicated in writing that their interests may be affected by the proposed decision.

Allotment Management Plans (AMPs) will be cooperatively prepared by the BLM with input from the permittee(s). For highly fragmented public lands, coordinated resource management plans will be developed with cooperating agencies, such as the Soil Conservation Service, Forest Service, and State of Idaho.

GRAZING USE ADJUSTMENTS

Effective March 1, 1983, adjustments to reach the rangeland carrying capacity will begin. Depending on rangeland monitoring results, final adjustments will be made at the third and fifth years. Adjustments may be taken by changing livestock numbers, period of use, or a combination of both.

FUTURE ADJUSTMENTS

If studies indicate a need to modify periods of use, livestock numbers, class of livestock, or grazing systems, these adjustments will be made after consultation with the affected livestock operators and any other affected interests. An environmental analysis will be prepared prior to initiating any changes.

Monitoring

Monitoring the resource condition to evaluate the effectiveness of the rangeland program will be done by field studies as follows:

1. Established range studies (livestock and vegetation) will continue to be used. This includes the use of photographic trend plots and collection of climatic data, actual grazing use made by livestock, and utilization studies by the key species method. In addition, regular range supervision, compliance checks, and forage inventory rechecks will continue. Where appropriate, new studies will be initiated, e.g., remote sensing.

2. Wildlife studies will include mule deer range browse studies each spring to show the condition, utilization, and shrub age and form class of winter browse. Forage utilization, in sage grouse habitat, will be monitored by using the key forage plant method in meadow areas and by determining shrub age and form class in known nesting/brood rearing areas. Aquatic habitat will be monitored periodically by using BLM's Idaho State Office "Stream Habitat Condition Evaluation Form," by establishing studies in fenced riparian areas, and by electro-shocking to determine fish populations.

3. Water quality, water yields, and sediment production and infiltration will be monitored in cooperation with the U.S. Geological Survey. Stream flows and storm runoffs will be measured periodically to determine how water yields are being affected by the program. Water quality changes in streams, springs, and reservoirs will be monitored by periodic water grab samples. Paired watershed studies will also be established.

Alternatives

This section describes the alternative rangeland management programs analyzed in the EIS and the impacts that would have occurred had they been selected.

ALTERNATIVE B – INCREASED LIVESTOCK USE

The initial allocation of vegetation under this alternative includes 2,661 AUMs for wildlife and 61,994 AUMs for livestock. Over the long term, 3,294 AUMs would be provided for wildlife and the target allocation for livestock would be 89,287 AUMs. Grazing systems would be implemented as follows: rest–rotation on 61,806 acres, deferred rotation on 152,340 acres, seasonal use on 2,834 acres, and custodial management on 6,362 acres.

Range improvements in this alternative include 36 water troughs, 18.5 miles of fence, 29 miles of pipeline, 3 spring developments, 7 reservoirs, 15 cattleguards, 2 pumping stations, 2 storage tanks, 2 wells, 48,950 acres of land treatments (burning, spraying, etc.), and 35,590 acres of seeding maintenance.

Impact Summary. Vegetative production over the long term would increase by 34 percent with significant improvement in range condition and trend. Condition would decline on riparian vegetation and two sensitive and one proposed threatened plant species would be adversely affected. Soil erosion would increase on 34 percent of the allotted acreage and decline on only 25 percent. Sufficient watershed cover would decrease from 64 percent to 49 percent of the allotted area. Significant deterioration in water quality would occur.

Big game forage requirements would be 1,111 AUMs short over the long term. Grazing use conflicts would continue on much of the critical mule deer and antelope range. Increased grazing and additional land treatments would adversely affect most species. Further deterioration in riparian vegetation would adversely affect waterfowl, fisheries, and other riparian species.

A 10 percent decline in fishing and upland game hunting and 20 percent decline in mule deer hunting would be expected in the long term. Ranch income changes over the long term would amount to +$304,000.

ALTERNATIVE C – EXISTING STOCKING LEVEL

The current livestock grazing program would continue. Grazing preference would remain at 45,392 AUMs. Average annual licensed use would continue at the 6-year average (54,472 AUMs) with 283 AUMs licensed on two new allotments (54,755 AUMs total licensed use). Current grazing systems would continue: rest–rotation (54,828 acres), deferred rotation (49,638 acres), seasonal use (112,474 acres), and custodial management (6,362 acres). No new AMPs or coordinated plans would be initiated, but existing AMPs would continue to be implemented and updated.

Existing range improvements would be maintained in usable condition and 32,954 acres of existing seedings would be maintained. No new range project work would be initiated unless identified in an existing AMP.

Impact Summary. A 10 percent increase in vegetative production over the long term would be expected with limited improvement in range condition and trend. There would be no change in current riparian vegetation condition. Soil erosion would decrease on 51 percent of the allotted acreage and increase on 3 percent. Acceptable watershed cover would increase from 64 percent to 74 percent of the area. Water quality would not change from the current situation.

Forage requirements for big game would be met, but conflicts with late fall and early spring grazing would continue on much of the critical big game range. Current populations of upland game would be maintained, but nest desertion and trampling impacts would persist. Lack of improvement in riparian vegetation would mean little change in waterfowl, fisheries, and other riparian species.

ALTERNATIVE D – REDUCED LIVESTOCK USE

The initial and long-term forage allocation to livestock would be 34,783 AUMs. The allocation to wildlife would be 4,405 AUMs which would satisfy future population projections as well as present population needs. Grazing systems would be the same as under Alternative C.

No range improvements or land treatment maintenance would be undertaken. Project work to improve riparian vegetation and wildlife habitat would be undertaken.

Impact Summary. A 2 percent increase in vegetative production would occur. Trend and condition on native range would improve, but they would decline on seeded areas. Riparian vegetation would improve significantly on the 43 percent that would be fenced, minimally on the remainder. Soil erosion would decrease on 85 percent of the acreage and increase on only 1 percent. Sufficient watershed cover would occur on 80 percent of the acreage. Water quality would improve.

Big game forage requirements would be met. Changes in period of use would benefit antelope habitat and much of the critical mule deer habitat. Reduced livestock numbers would result in improved habitat for upland game. Riparian habitat would improve for upland game, fisheries, waterfowl, and other associated species, particularly where fenced.

Recreation visitor days would increase: 5 percent for fishing; 15 percent for upland game hunting, and 10 percent for mule deer hunting. Long-term ranch income changes would amount to –$187,000.

ALTERNATIVE E – NO LIVESTOCK GRAZING

All livestock grazing on public land would be terminated. All grazing permits and AMPs would be cancelled. The only consumptive use of forage would be for wildlife.

Existing range developments and land treatments would be maintained only if beneficial for non-livestock use. No new range developments would be undertaken for livestock use.

Impact Summary. A 2 percent increase in vegetative production would be expected. Trend and condition would improve significantly on native range, decrease significantly on seeded range. All riparian vegetation would improve significantly. Potential soil erosion would decrease on 91 percent of the acreage with no areas projected to increase. Sufficient watershed cover would occur on 82 percent of the acreage, up from 64 percent currently. Water quality would improve significantly.

Generally, all wildlife species would benefit from the elimination of livestock because of reduced competition, improved riparian habitat, and improved water quality. Long-term population decreases may occur in some species which depend on open areas or which utilize grazed areas as part of their habitat.

Long-term recreation use projections would increase 10 percent for fishing and 5 percent for upland game and big game hunting. Long-term ranch income changes would amount to –$540,000.

Environmental Overview

FIRE

The use of fire as a management tool will help maintain vegetation in an ecologically stable condition, alter vegetation, enhance the edge effect for a more diverse wildlife habitat and, when needed, halt the reinvasion of brush into grassland seedings. In addition, allowing natural fires to burn in specific areas will allow for natural ecological changes to occur.

FORESTRY

No forest activity will be undertaken because of the limited amount of forested acreage in the planning unit and the value of these areas for wildlife and watershed protection.

LANDS

Environmental impacts from lands and realty actions are generally beneficial. Social and economic factors are most often affected by land decisions. Decisions provide for the transfer of public land ownership when beneficial to the public and for use of public lands for utility corridors, roads, pipelines, and other actions in the public good. All disposal actions of public lands will be consistent with the land use plan.

MINERALS

Nearly all public land in the planning unit is open to mineral activities under the General Mining Laws. There is little mineral activity, outside of sand, gravel and building stone, in the area. Though environmental impacts occur from such activities, they are limited in extent and short term in nature. Stipulations on permits for these activities will provide for environmental protection and rehabilitation.

RECREATION

Minimal impacts are expected from recreation management decisions. Decisions generally favor environmental protection,

maintenance of a quality visual resource, and environmentally sound management. Implementation of off-road vehicle designations and such special management areas as the Salmon Falls Natural Area and the Dry Cataracts National Natural Landmark support the preservation of unique and representative ecosystems or provide for the control or elimination of current environmental problems. Management decisions are designed to benefit recreationists today and in the future.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

Controlling surface-disturbing activities and the location of intrusions will preserve prehistoric and historic values. However, physical protection, stabilization, or elimination of unauthorized excavation may be necessary. Establishment of test plots and excavations will provide additional information relative to impacts on cultural resources and expanded knowledge of the socio-cultural values of the sites.

WATERSHED

Environmentally acceptable management practices, such as the implementation of off-road vehicle designations, limiting livestock use, or implementation of grazing systems, will improve watershed conditions by correcting the imbalances of past use. Benefits expected are decreased soil erosion, improved vegetative cover, and improved water quality. Protection will be provided for all threatened and endangered plant species and associated habitat.

WILDLIFE

Management decisions are aimed at enhancing wildlife habitat and associated species by maintaining a balanced environment, maintaining adequate cover and forage, and providing additional water sources. Conflicts to wildlife come primarily from the range management program.

The effects of livestock grazing on wildlife habitat were analyzed in the Twin Falls EIS. While the overall effects are generally beneficial (meeting big game forage requirements, providing additional water sources, improving cover and increasing forage), some impacts would not be eliminated or mitigated. Grazing use would still result in competition with mule deer and antelope on critical range. Spring grazing would continue to result in nest desertion and trampling impacts in upland game range. Land treatments would result in short-term adverse effects on some upland game and big game habitat.

RANGE MANAGEMENT

Livestock forage decisions are designed to achieve a balanced mix of uses and ensure sustained yield from the rangeland ecosystem. Range condition and forage production will improve. The program that evolved out of the MFP and the EIS prescribes livestock levels that do not exceed the productive capability of the land. Socio-economic impacts from stocking levels will result in beneficial effects to livestock operators and the public. Protection of natural environmental values through adequate environmental assessment and the maintenance of vigorous and healthy vegetation is a sound basis for multiple use management of this resource.

Consultation and Coordination

Public review was an important part in the preparation and approval of this management framework plan. Throughout the planning process, numerous federal, state and local agencies, as well as members of the general public, offered suggestions to improve the plan. The Magic Resource Area staff contacted representatives of these groups to ensure that planning efforts and management decisions did not conflict with the land use

plans of other agencies. The staff considered all comments during the development of the Twin Falls MFP, incorporating a substantial number of these comments into the plan.

The Twin Falls plan was coordinated with a number of specific planning efforts. Twin Falls County officials were consulted during the development of the plan and were informed of the final results. Land use decisions are in accord with the land use and zoning requirements of Twin Falls County in which the lands are located. The plan was also coordinated with the Sawtooth National Forest.

Preparation of the Twin Falls Livestock Grazing EIS offered additional opportunity for public review and response to the proposed livestock program for public lands in the Twin Falls Planning Unit.

The BLM's rangeland management policy includes a goal to increase and encourage systematic cooperation, consultation, and coordination with rangeland users and owners of lands intermingled with public lands. The policy is an integral part of the land use and grazing management decision-making process. BLM resource area personnel had discussions of proposed grazing management with each livestock permittee during the development of the plan.

Consultation, coordination and cooperation with individual permittees and other interested parties will continue as decisions are developed and signed for implementing the range management program. Development of allotment management plans will also involve coordination with the livestock operators as well as other interested parties including private land owners, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Idaho Department of Lands, U.S. Forest Service, and Soil Conservation Service.

Normal day-to-day contacts with users and other interested parties will continue as specific components of the land use plan are implemented.

Management Actions

This plan will be followed by on-the-ground actions. Some decisions in the plan will require more detailed planning before implementing.

Development projects are subject to the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act. An environmental assessment will be prepared for each specific action or group of actions. If the impacts are unacceptable, the proposed action may be modified or rejected. Some decisions have already been or are being implemented.

The management decisions will be used in programming and budgeting for the annual work plan. Because on-the-ground actions depend on funding by Congress, it may be some time before some decisions can be implemented.

In response to changing resource conditions and management requirements, this plan will be updated and management decisions revised as new information becomes available. The public will have opportunities to participate in the planning process when major revisions are made.

TABLE 2: ALT. A (PROPOSED ACTION)

INITIAL FORAGE ALLOCATION (AUMs)

Allotment Name	Wild-life 1/	Live-stock	Non-Consump-tive	Total	Class of Livestock
Babcock-Berger	- -	417	557	974	Cattle
Buhl Group-Berger	- -	1,775	1,847	3,622	Cattle
Kerr-Berger	- -	1,365	910	2,275	Cattle
Ellis/Tews-Berger	- -	4,933	4,740	9,673	Cattle
Chadwick-Berger	- -	1,104	700	1,804	Cattle
Koch-Berger	- -	687	609	1,296	Cattle
Kaster-Berger	- -	768	681	1,449	Cattle
Kunkel-Berger	- -	964	855	1,819	Cattle
Lassen-Berger	- -	363	322	685	Cattle
Lierman-Berger	- -	545	524	1,069	Cattle
M. Lierman-Berger	- -	425	425	850	Cattle
Lierman/Wegener-Berger	- -	1,035	882	1,917	Cattle
Lanting-Berger	- -	1,486	1,121	2,607	Cattle
Martens-Berger	- -	318	318	636	Cattle
Noh-Berger	- -	2,590	2,696	5,286	Cattle/Sheep
Parrott-Berger	- -	790	646	1,436	Cattle
PVGA-Berger	- -	2,847	2,525	5,372	Cattle
Schnitker-Berger	- -	194	159	353	Cattle
Smith-Berger	- -	208	200	408	Cattle
Wrigley-Berger	- -	648	834	1,482	Cattle
Skeem-Berger	- -	160	148	308	Cattle
J. E. Baker-Deep Creek	- -	741	1,634	2,375	Cattle
J. E. Baker-Lost Creek	43	353	1,841	2,237	Cattle
Western Stockgrowers	1,544	2,600	15,707	19,851	Cattle
Point Ranch	127	4,221	22,150	26,498	Cattle
Whiskey Creek	- -	4,209	10,584	14,793	Cattle
Moore-Lost Creek	5	30	89	124	Cattle
North Big Creek	20	282	1,172	1,474	Cattle
Kerr-Lost Creek	12	1,683	3,882	5,577	Cattle
Noh-White Rock	19	333	674	1,026	Cattle/Sheep
Noh-Sections	48	291	922	1,261	Cattle/Sheep
Mule Creek-PVGA	72	1,326	4,927	6,325	Cattle
Horse Creek-PVGA	40	746	2,377	3,163	Cattle
Frahm-PVGA	39	143	524	706	Cattle
South Mule Creek	59	257	3,011	3,327	Cattle
Griff	- -	1,280	1,381	2,661	Cattle
Peters	- -	405	578	983	Cattle
Rock Creek-Coiner	- -	50	320	370	Sheep
Courtnay	- -	102	180	282	Cattle
Hub Butte-WSGA	- -	1,142	2,888	4,030	Cattle
Salmon Tract Iso. (Danos)	- -	10	8	18	Cattle
Hub Butte Davis	- -	156	740	896	Cattle
Fuller	- -	300	783	1,083	Cattle
Greene Private	19	118	262	399	Cattle
Salmon Tract-Stewart	- -	5	18	23	Cattle
Soldier Creek	10	34	215	259	Cattle
Barton-Schutte	- -	312	574	886	Cattle
Jones-Goat Spring	- -	441	622	1,063	Cattle
Kinsey-Lost Creek	5	40	401	446	Cattle
West Kunkel	- -	690	988	1,678	Cattle
Amsterdam-Kunkel	- -	142	711	853	Cattle
Loughmiller	- -	610	1,244	1,854	Cattle
Salmon Tract Ind.	- -	14	22	36	Cattle
Lilly Grade	- -	227	2,592	2,819	Cattle
Salmon Tract-McCoy	- -	16	15	31	Cattle
South Big Creek	7	246	638	891	Cattle
Randall Iso.	- -	10	45	55	Cattle
Lemmon-Ring	15	30	116	161	Cattle
Cameron	50	160	714	924	Cattle
Schnell-Salmon Tract	28	3,526	6,141	9,695	Cattle
Magic Common	54	723	5,511	6,288	Cattle
Sharp-Lost Creek	35	319	860	1,214	Cattle
Salmon Tract Iso. (Stewart)	- -	24	140	164	Cattle
Lost Creek-U2	110	335	1,727	2,172	Cattle
Salmon Tract-U2	- -	72	113	185	Cattle
Squaw Joe	68	577	2,585	3,230	Cattle
Squaw Joe Iso.	- -	240	1,343	1,583	Cattle
Ridge	222	999	4,197	5,418	Cattle
Ridge Iso.	- -	126	457	583	Cattle
Gravel Pit-Salmon Tract	- -	170	642	812	Cattle
Section 22-Salmon Tract	- -	40	131	171	Cattle
Highway Unit	- -	16	56	72	Cattle
East Kunkel	- -	13	183	196	Cattle
Highway-Kunkel	- -	65	310	375	Cattle
Kunkel Iso.	- -	77	147	224	Cattle
Hot Creek	10	94	89	193	Cattle
Tews Iso.	- -	194	194	388	Cattle
Big Creek Iso.	- -	89	462	551	Cattle
Totals	2,661	55,076	132,536	190,273	

1/ With the exception of 7 AUMs being allocated to antelope on the Point Ranch Allotment, all wildlife AUMs are for mule deer.

TABLE 3: ALT. A (PROPOSED ACTION)

GRAZING MANAGEMENT AND PROJECT WORK

Allotment	Federal Acres	Systems (treat-ments)1/	Periods of Use	New Projects2/ T	F (mi.)	PL (mi.)	SpO	R	PS	CG	New Treatments (acres)3/ PO	RAS	BO	SO	S	Seeding Maintenance (acres)4/ SMB5/	SMS	SMR
Babcock-Berger	607	OR(2)	4/1 to 7/15, 7/15 to 10/31													246		
Buhl Group-Berger	4,465	RR(3)	3/16 to 4/30, 11/1 to 12/15	2		0.75										2,020		
Kerr-Berger	2,229	OR(2)	11/1 to 1/31													1,600		
Ellis/Tews-Berger	9,728	RR(3)	3/1 to 6/30, 11/1 to 2/28													3,770		
Chadwick-Berger	1,360	OR(3)	12/1 to 2/28													160		
Koch-Berger	948	OR(3)	12/1 to 4/17													100		
Kaster-Berger	1,510	RR(3)	4/1 to 10/31													400		
Kunkel-Berger	1,516	RR(3)	4/1 to 11/15													280		
Lassen-Berger	640	OR(3)	4/1 to 10/31													80		
Lierman-Berger	720	OR(3)	3/16 to 10/31															
M. Lierman-Berger	640	RR(3)	3/16 to 10/31															
Lierman/Wegener-Berger	2,044	OR(3)	4/16 to 11/15													150		
Lanting-Berger	3,233	RR(3)	5/1 to 1/31							1						1,010		
Martens-Berger	839	OR(3)	4/1 to 4/30, 9/1 to 9/30							2						200		
Noh-Berger	5,105	OR(3)	3/1 to 7/15, 12/1 to 2/28							2						820		
Parrott-Berger	1,478	RR(3)	4/16 to 11/30													790		
PVGA-Berger	7,389	RR(3)	4/1 to 10/31										340			1,590	400	
Schnitker-Berger	400	OR(2)	4/21 to 10/31	1		1.25										320		
Smith-Berger	320	OR(2)	5/1 to 8/30															
Wrigley-Berger	1,955	OR(3)	1/6 to 5/21													1,010		
Skeem-Berger	316	OR(2)	4/16 to 9/15															
J. E. Baker-Deep Creek	3,339	OR(3)	4/1 to 6/30, 12/1 to 12/31													1,086		
J. E. Baker-Lost Creek	2,598	OR(3)	7/1 to 11/30														593	
Western Stockgrowers	23,505	SU	4/16 to 5/25, 10/16 to 11/15	8		7.0	1	4	1								1,206	
Point Ranch	33,453	OR(3)	4/1 to 12/31	1		1.5				1	181			277				
Whiskey Creek	18,719	OR(3)	4/1 to 12/31	1	2.5	1.5				5			1,800	987		2,252		
Moore-Lost Creek	80	SU	5/1 to 5/31														43	
North Big Creek	1,011	C	4/1 to 11/30															
Kerr-Lost Creek	6,666	RR(3)	5/1 to 10/31	1		0.5								432	502		2,752	
Noh-White Rock	1,597	OR(3)	4/25 to 6/30, 11/1 to 11/30			1.0											349	
Noh-Sections	1,455	OR(3)	5/1 to 11/30		2.5			1										
Mule Creek-PVGA	7,014	RR(3)	5/1 to 11/30	1		0.5									907		882	
Horse Creek-PVGA	3,322	RR(3)	5/1 to 7/15, 10/15 to 11/15											180			1,360	
Frahm-PVGA	696	RR(3)	5/1 to 11/30															
South Mule Creek	3,018	OR(3)	5/16 to 7/31	2	0.5	0.5	1			1				285	242		69	
Griff	2,244	OR(3)	4/15 to 9/30															
Peters	1,213	OR(3)	4/15 to 7/18	3	1.0	1.0							207					
Rock Creek-Coiner	159	SU	5/1 to 9/30															
Courtnay	311	SU	5/1 to 9/16															
Hub Butte-WSGA	4,268	RR(3)	4/11 to 5/25, 11/15 to 12/31			1.0										1,768		
Salmon Tract Iso. (Danos)	80	RR(2)	4/1 to 5/31															
Hub Butte-Davis	800	OR(3)	5/11 to 7/30			1.0										517		
Fuller	1,070	OR(3)	4/10 to 6/15, 10/1 to 11/30	1		0.75				1						825		
Greene Private	321	C	5/16 to 9/30															
Salmon Tract-Stewart	46	C	10/1 to 12/31															
Soldier Creek	284	SU	6/15 to 8/14												71			

TABLE 3: CONT.

Allotment	Federal Acres	Systems (treat-ments)1/	Periods of Use	New Projects2/ T	F (mi.)	PL (mi.)	SpD	R	PS	CG	New Treatments (acres)3/ PD	RAS	BD	SD	S	Seeding Maintenance (acres)4/ SMB5/	SMS	SMR
Barton-Schutte	611	DR(2)	5/1 to 8/31	1	0.5	0.3							47					
Jones-Goat Spring	1,386	RR(3)	5/1 to 8/15													400	787	
Kinsey-Lost Creek	317	C	5/1 to 10/31															
West Kunkel	1,517	RR(3)	4/1 to 10/31													600		
Amsterdam-Kunkel	1,100	SU	5/20 to 10/31															
Loughmiller	1,675	DR(3)	4/20 to 9/5															
Salmon Tract Ind.	40	SU	4/18 to 9/17															
Lilly Grade	1,644	RR(3)	4/16 to 10/15	3		2.75											300	294
Salmon Tract-McCoy	35	C	4/16 to 5/27															
South Big Creek	1,549	RR(3)	10/1 to 10/30		1.0					1					757			
Randall Iso.	106	SU	5/15 to 10/27															
Lemmon-Ring	252	SU	12/1 to 1/31															
Cameron	1,378	C	7/1 to 9/15															
Schnell-Salmon Tract	15,121	DR(3)	4/16 to 10/31										1,618	620	148	309		
Magic Common	9,168	DR(2)	5/16 to 9/30	3	2.75	2.25								1,000				
Sharp-Lost Creek	1,002	DR(3)	5/20 to 11/19			0.2									80		248	
Salmon Tract Iso. (Stewart)	280	SU	4/16 to 5/15							1		150						
Lost Creek-U2	2,037	RR(3)	4/20 to 5/31, 11/15 to 1/7		1.25	1.25							80		896			
Salmon Tract-U2	315	SU	5/15 to 7/1															
Squaw Joe	5,936	DR(2)	4/11 to 8/17	2	0.75	0.75							570				651	
Squaw Joe Iso.	2,277	C	3/1 to 2/28															
Ridge	6,823	DR(3)	5/1 to 10/31					1					202	230				
Ridge Iso.	810	C	6/1 to 11/30															
Gravel Pit-Salmon Tract	700	DR(2)	4/15 to 6/25, 12/1 to 12/15		1.0								500					
Section 22-Salmon Tract	160	SU	7/1 to 10/10															
Highway Unit	120	SU	11/23 to 11/30															
East Kunkel	280	SU	10/1 to 10/10													280		
Highway-Kunkel	447	SU	11/1 to 11/15								235							
Kunkel Iso.	315	C	3/1 to 2/28															
Hot Creek	158	C	11/1 to 11/30															
Tews Iso.	752	C	3/1 to 2/28															
Big Creek Iso.	320	C	4/1 to 11/30															
TOTALS	223,342			30	13.75	25.75	2	6	1	15	416	150	5,364	4,011	3,603	22,583	9,640	294

1/ - DR - Deferred Rotation; RR - Rest Rotation; SU - Seasonal Use; C - Custodial

2/ - T - Water Trough; F - Fence; PL - Pipeline; SpD - Spring Development; R - Reservoir; PS - Pump Station; CG - Cattleguard

3/ - PD - Plow and Drill Seed; RAS - Rail and Aerial Seed; BD - Burn and Drill Seed; SD - Spray and Drill Seed; S - Spray

4/ - SMB - Seeding Maintenance - Burn; SMS - Seeding Maintenance - Spray; SMR - Seeding Maintenance - Rail

5/ - A 437 acre seeding maintenace by burning is also planned on the Whiskey Creek Buffer Pasture.

Glossary

Allotment Management Plan (AMP) — A detailed plan for intensively managing and improving a specific grazing allotment.

Animal Unit Month (AUM) — The amount of forage (800 pounds dry weight) required to sustain the equivalent of 1 cow, 1 horse, 5 sheep, 5 deer, or 9 antelope for one month.

Carrying Capacity (Grazing Capacity) — The maximum use rate possible without inducing damage to vegetation or related resources. It may vary from year to year on the same areas due to fluctuating forage production.

Common Use Area — Generally, broad geographic areas, not officially noted or posted, from which non-exclusive disposals of common variety minerals can be made.

Condition

Ecological Condition (Range Condition) describes the existing vegetative composition of an area in relation to the climax (natural potential) plant community for the site. It is an expression of the relative degree to which the kinds, proportions and amounts of plants in a plant community resemble the climax community.

Seeding Condition describes the amount and productivity of seeded species. The ratings also take into account the amount of reinvading shrub species into the treatment area. The condition rating system for seedings is measured in terms of maximizing production of forage for livestock.

Grazing Management Systems

Rest—Rotation Grazing systematically provides a period (or "treatment") of rest for at least one continuous growing season for each pasture included in the allotment.

Deferred Rotation Grazing consists of two or more treatments, at least one of which systematically provides rest from grazing during the critical growing period for each pasture included in the allotment.

Seasonal Grazing is restricted to a specific season. Allotments are grazed at a moderate rate during the same period each year.

Custodial Management Areas are made up predominantly of private lands that contain small acreages of unfenced public land. Grazing use would be authorized at biological use limit levels. Livestock use could occur during any period of the year provided resource conditions did not deteriorate.

Grazing Preference — 1.) The total number of animal unit months of livestock grazing on public lands apportioned and attached to base property owned or controlled by a permittee or lessee. 2.) Selection of certain plants over others by grazing animals.

Locatable Minerals — Whatever is recognized as a mineral by the standard authorities, whether metallic or other substance, when found on public lands in quantity and quality sufficient to render the lands valuable on account thereof, is treated as coming within the purview of the mining laws.

Management Framework Plan (MFP) – A planning decision document that establishes land use or resource allocations for any given area of land within a planning unit. The MFP establishes constraints and parameters for future actions proposed by the Bureau or requested by the public.

Monitoring – A means to determine if management actions are meeting resource management objectives within prescribed time frames and to provide information to determine if modifications are needed.

Prescription Burning – Skillful application of fire from a careful prescription developed for a definite area to accomplish specific objectives.

Recreation Visitor Day – 1.) For hunting and fishing activities, one trip, be it one hour or twelve hours, is considered one visitor day. 2.) For all other recreational activities, a visitor day is equal to twelve hours, which may be aggregated continuously, intermittently or simultaneously by one or more persons.

Riparian – Pertaining to or situated on the banks of a river or other body of water. Riparian vegetation is the vegetation found along a river or other body of water.

Salable Minerals – Including but not limited to petrified wood and common varieties of sand, stone, gravel, pumicite, cinders, and clay on public lands of the United States.

Stipulations – The terms or conditions of a permit, lease, right-of-way, application, etc.

Suitable Range – Range accessible to livestock and which can be grazed on a sustained yield basis without damage to the resource.

Trend – Range trend refers to changes in vegetation and soil characteristics resulting directly from climatic and other natural factors and from grazing intensity.

Notes:

Form 1279-3
(June 1984)

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